

EDISON PIONEERS.
29 West 39th Street,
New York City.



Mr. C. L. Clarke
Gen. Elec. Co.
Schenectady
N. Y.

In Memoriam

THOMAS COMMERFORD MARTIN
suddenly at the Pittsfield, Mass., Hospital
May 17th, 1924

Mr. Martin was born at London, England, July 22nd, 1858. At an early age he attended an educational academy at Gravesend, England, and was additionally instructed by a private tutor. After completing his studies he came to America and in 1879 was employed by Mr. W. J. Johnston, a well-known publisher, as an editorial writer, principally on technical electrical subjects in connection with Mr. Edison's and others then marvellous developments. In 1883 he became Editor of the *Electrical World*, a position he retained until 1909, when he was selected to be Secretary of the National Electric Light Association, serving actively as such until 1921, and in an advisory capacity to the day of his death. In 1900-1915 Mr. Martin acted as Special Agent for the U. S. Census Bureau, and in this capacity prepared an exhaustive report covering the electrical industries of the U. S., which was published in 1902.

Mr. Martin was a member of the conference committee organized by the Engineering Societies to expend the fund contributed by Mr. Andrew Carnegie for the United Engineering Societies Building in West 39th St., and the Engineers' Club in West 40th St., both in New York City. He was the author of "The Electric Motor and Its Applications" which appeared in 1886, the "Inventions, Researches and Writings of Nicola Tesla" published in 1893, "Edison—His Life and Inventions" published in 1910, and Co-Editor of "The Story of Electricity" published in two volumes from 1919 to 1922. He was a well-known contributor to reference books, technical journals, and miscellaneous publications on electrical subjects, and an authority on the history, progress, and statistics of the electrical industries. He was a frequent lecturer before electrical and engineering societies, including the Royal Institution of Engineers, Great Britain, and the Societe Internationale des Electriciens, France, also various American Colleges and Universities.

Mr. Martin took a very active part on behalf of the Allied Nations during the Great War, speaking before and organizing various societies for its successful prosecution, and in this capacity became Chairman of the Marconi Fund for Italian War Relief, and Secretary of the Florence Nightingale Hospital for training nurses in France.

At the time of his death Mr. Martin was undoubtedly the Dean of the technical electrical press in this country, and was selected by the New York Edison Co. in 1922 to collaborate the special publication issued by that company entitled "Forty Years of Edison Service" to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the opening of the original Pearl St. central station in New York City, Sept. 4th, 1882.

When early in 1924 the New York Electrical Society (of which he was a Past President) lost its Secretary through death, Mr. Martin was chosen to fill the vacancy and remained as its acting secretary to the day of his death.

Mr. Martin was a member of the following societies: Officier de l'Instruction Publique (France); American Institute of Electrical Engineers, of which he was a Past President; Safety Institute of America; Robert Fulton Monument Association; Institution of Electrical Engineers of Great Britain; Franklin Institute; Committee for celebration of 100 years of Peace among English speaking peoples; Trustee of the Engineering College, George Washington University; Iron and Steel Institute; National Civic Federation; National Electric Light Association; Illuminating Engineering Association; American Electro-Chemical Society; American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society; Sheldon Memorial Convention of the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, and the Engineers' Club of New York, of which he was a Past President. He was one of those present on the evening of Jan. 24th, 1918, at the formation of the Edison Pioneers, and was elected one of its first Vice-Presidents.

Mr. Martin is survived by his wife, his sons Kingsley and Commerford, and several brothers in England and Nova Scotia.

His character was of the optimistic trend, always genial and smiling, always sympathetic. Coupled with these admirable traits Mr. Martin possessed an unfailing and tireless patience, an apparently inexhaustible energy, with a mentality far beyond the ordinary, all of which were subjected to severe strain during his recent illness, and nobly withstood that strain.

Mr. Martin was a pioneer member of the

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The New York Herald
Mon., May 19, 1924.

Funeral of T. C. Martin **At Woodlawn To-day**

Many Executives in Electrical World to Attend Services

Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. to-morrow at Woodlawn Chapel for Thomas Commerford Martin, former editor of "The Electrical World," an associate of Thomas A. Edison in electrical research for several years and the author of many books on electrical topics, who died on Saturday.

Many men prominent in the field of applied electricity, including delegates of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, of which he was a past president, will attend the funeral, leaving on a special car from Grand Central Terminal at 12:45 p. m., Eastern Standard time.

Funeral private.

MARTIN—Thos. Commerford

The New York Electrical Society desires to express their profound regret at the death, Saturday, May 17, of Thomas Commerford Martin, honorary secretary and past president of the society and one of its most generous and distinguished members. His loss will be deeply felt in all spheres of applied electricity, which he brilliantly humanized through a long life of unselfish and illustrious efforts. Funeral Woodlawn Chapel, 2 p. m., Tuesday, May 20. Special car attached to train leaving Grand Central station at 12:35 p. m., standard time.

PHILIP TORCHIO,
President New York Electrical Society.